

a characteristically erudite paper on "Eugenic Influences in Economics." Sir Basil Blackett moved, and Mr. Ralph Hawtrey seconded, a vote of thanks to the lecturer. Besides those mentioned the guests of the *Society* were Lady Stamp, Dr. E. C. Snow, Dr. W. H. Coates, Mr. S. P. Vivian, Mr. O. R. Hobson, Mr. E. C. Bewlay and Dr. W. Allen Daley. We have pleasure in announcing that Sir Josiah Stamp's paper will be published in full in our next issue.

Dr. C. V. Drysdale

THE retirement of Dr. Drysdale from his appointment as Director of Scientific Research at the Admiralty has been the occasion of many tributes to his brilliant inventiveness in the field of electrical measurements and acoustics. In this REVIEW it is fitting to recall his services to eugenics and birth control. Although at the time fully occupied with his professional work, C. V. Drysdale took over the editorship of the *Malthusian* on the death of his father, Dr. C. R. Drysdale, in 1906. Soon after he conceived the idea that a great deal more might be learned from the columns of international vital statistics in the annual reports of the Registrar-General if these were represented diagrammatically; and, indeed, when these diagrams (the first of their kind) had been made for all the countries whose vital statistics were available, he found a parallelism between the birth rates and the death rates in long-settled countries which led him to enunciate a "law of correspondence" for populations pressing upon their means of subsistence. It may be added that most of the countries concerned had falling birth rates; in others the rates were fairly stationary.

The next product of his scanty leisure was a paper, *Eugenics and Neo-Malthusianism*, for the First International Eugenics Conference. In this he put forward the view that although birth control had acted dysgenically, and was still doing so, the only remedy was more birth control, in other words, the removal of restrictions which hindered the dissemination of birth control

knowledge and practice throughout the community. Quoting data which had been published in the EUGENICS REVIEW on the extraordinary improvement that had taken place in the physique of the Dutch people, he pointed out that in Holland the cause of birth control had been greatly forwarded by two cabinet ministers, who had co-operated in efforts to convey contraceptive advice and knowledge to people of the poorest classes. It is to be hoped that Dr. Drysdale will long continue to co-operate in the work of the *Eugenics Society*; and that he will add to the number of his valued contributions to this REVIEW.

BINNIE DUNLOP.

National Baby Week

THE National Baby Week Council, which is concerned with cultivating and informing public opinion on matters connected with maternity and child welfare, draws our attention to the fact that this year it is concentrating its propaganda on a subject of special interest to this *Society*: "the making of an A.I. nation." To this end it is emphasizing the importance of laying the foundations of health in the ante-natal period, reminding parents of their responsibility for the type of life they bring into being, but at the same time not neglecting such environmental factors as good nutrition for expectant and nursing mothers and for infants in the early years of life. The Council directs this propaganda primarily to parents, but only in hardly less degree to other citizens, believing that measures for improving the quality of the nation are most likely to be successful when they command the support of well-informed and sympathetic public opinion.

Erratum

THE attention of readers is drawn to the omission, in error, from the paragraph headed "Rural Peace" in the January REVIEW (p. 264), of the quotation mark that should have followed the penultimate sentence. The final sentence is our own commentary and not, as might appear, part of the quotation.